



PRESENTER BIOS (Subject to change)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Aaron Dworkin - Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan



Named a 2005 MacArthur Fellow and President Obama's first appointment to the National Council on the Arts, Aaron P. Dworkin serves as dean of the University of Michigan's School of Music, Theatre & Dance, which is ranked among the top performing arts schools in the nation. He is also the founder of The Sphinx Organization, the leading national arts organization for transforming lives through the power of diversity and the arts. A multi-media performing artist, author, social entrepreneur, artist-citizen, and educator, he continually receives extensive national recognition for his leadership and service to communities. Dean Dworkin founded the Dworkin Foundation where he serves as chairman of the Board. He founded and serves as host of the weekly video mentoring show, AaronAsk.com which empowers people to live a fulfilling creative life and his memoir titled *Uncommon Rhythm: A Black, White, Jewish, Jehovah's Witness, Irish Catholic Adoptee's Journey to Leadership* was released through Aquarius Press.

Dean Dworkin has been featured in *People Magazine*, on NBC's *Today Show* and *Nightly News*, CNN, and NPR's *The Story* and *Performance Today*. He has been the subject of articles in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, *Emerge* and *Jet* Magazines, and was named one of Newsweek's "15 People Who Make America Great." He is the recipient of the Royal Philharmonic Society Honorary Membership, Harvard University's Vosgerchian Teaching Award, National Governors Association 2005 Distinguished Service to State Government Award, Detroit Symphony Orchestra's 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award, Detroit News's 2003 Michiganiaan of the Year Award, Crain's 40 Under 40 and Who's Who Awards, BET's History Makers in the Making Award, AT&T Excellence in Education Award, and National Black MBA's Entrepreneur of the Year. A passionate advocate for excellence in arts education and inclusion in the performing arts, Dean Dworkin has been a frequent keynote speaker and lecturer at numerous national conferences and serves regularly as a panelist on influential arts committees. Dean Dworkin's board service includes the League of American Orchestras, National Association of Performing Arts Presenters, National Society for the Gifted and Talented, CultureSource, Creative Many Michigan, Knight Foundation's Arts Advisory Board, the Avery Fisher Artist Program, Editorial Board of Downtown New York Magazine and Independent Sector's NGen Awards Committee.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Lesly Allen - Arts Council Coordinator, South Salt Lake City



Lesly Allen is the Arts Council Coordinator for South Salt Lake. Her passion for the arts and the impact it can have on communities began in her youth as a photographer, and later studying photography as an undergraduate. Lesly served many years with the Beverly Taylor Sorenson Art Works for Kids program at her daughters' school as a classroom volunteer and fundraiser. Lesly received a Masters Degree in Community Leadership and Arts Administration from Westminster College in Salt Lake City. She was the creator and administrator of the 9 Pillars Mural Project, an outdoor mural project raising awareness about youth experiencing homelessness. Lesly also serves on the Board of Directors for Utah Arts Alliance and Splore.

Stephen Ashton - Director of Audience Research and Development at Thanksgiving Point Institute



Stephen Ashton has been the Director of Audience Research and Development at Thanksgiving Point for the past five years. Prior to that he worked on Thanksgiving Point's exhibits development team designing and building exhibits. Stephen's areas of expertise include research, evaluation, instructional design, and design thinking. In 2015 Stephen was awarded the Rising Professional Award from the Utah Museums Association. He has a masters and doctorate in instructional psychology and technology from Brigham Young University. Stephen currently serves on the board of the Utah Museums Association and as a trustee of the Ashton Family Foundation. In his spare time, he loves hanging out with his wife and their six rambunctious sons.

Andrea Barnes - CEO AB Funding Solutions



Connecting people in the field – those who perform humanitarian, artistic, educational, and social services work -- with people who care, is my specialty. Through my work, I have developed strategies and avenues to communicate and work with local, national and international donors. I have experience in implementing large scale technology solutions to manage international charitable operations while ensuring that all charitable laws and regulations are followed. I have seen the power of corporate networks as a force for good and through networks, I seek to generate unprecedented support for charitable work world-wide.

Shandra Benito - Executive Director, Art Access



Shandra is a Deaf social worker, disability rights advocate, trumpet player, and arts enthusiast who is proud to serve as the executive director of Art Access. In her career she has worked alongside many different communities including individuals with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, immigrants, refugees, and native and indigenous people. Shandra has served on the City of Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities, and the Legal Voice Violence Against Women Task Force and recently joined board of the Sego Lily Center for the Abused Deaf.

Art Access Mission Statement: Art Access builds a diverse and inclusive arts community in Utah by providing creative opportunities for people with Disabilities and other marginalized communities and through public engagement in the arts.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Tom Borrup, Ph.D. - Community Planning Consultant, Creative Community Builders



Tom Borrup, Ph.D is the founder of Creative Community Builders based in Minneapolis. He consults with cities, foundations, and nonprofits integrating arts, economic development, urban planning and design, civic engagement, and animation of public space. His 2006 book *The Creative Community Builders' Handbook*, remains the leading text in the field of arts and community development. As Executive Director of Minneapolis' Intermedia Arts 1980 – 2002, Tom helped transform a diverse urban neighborhood while building a nationally recognized multidisciplinary, cross-cultural organization. Mr. Borrup serves as Director of Graduate Studies for the University of Minnesota's Masters in Arts and Cultural Leadership and teaches Cultural Planning for Drexel University. He earned his Ph.D. in leadership and change at Antioch University researching the social and organizational networks of arts and cultural districts.

Charlotte Boye-Christensen - Artistic Director, NOW-ID



Charlotte Boye-Christensen is originally from Copenhagen. She received her formal training at London Contemporary Dance School and at the Laban Centre in London and completed her MFA degree at Tisch School of the Arts, NYU. Charlotte has been commissioned to create new work for prestigious companies around the world. In 2002 she joined Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company to assist in the artistic direction of the company. She became the Artistic Director in 2008 and created 26 new works on the company. In 2013 she stepped away from that position to form NOW-ID. So far, NOW-ID has created ten productions/ events/workshops in Salt Lake City, toured Internationally to the Copenhagen Opera Festival and Funen Opera House and Nationally to the Kansas Dance Festival. Charlotte is the recipient of: a Fulbright Scholarship, the Choo-San Goh Award for Choreographic Excellence and in Utah - six "Artys" for "Best choreography". She has choreographed for Ballet West, Milwaukee Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre, Danish Dance Theatre, Ballet De Camaguey, The European Dance Development Center, The Bauhaus and more.

Heather Brown - Recreation Therapist, Salt Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center



Heather Brown is a physical medicine & rehabilitation recreation therapist at the Salt Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center (SLCVAMC). She earned her master's degree in parks, recreation, and tourism with an emphasis in therapeutic recreation from the University of Utah in 2013; and double majored in sociology and international studies in her undergrad in 2009 from the same university. She is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Therapist by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification and is licensed in the State of Utah as a Master Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. She has presented at multiple recreation therapy conferences on various topics including: Addiction in Long Term Care; Evidence Based Practice; National Veterans Wheelchair Games Coach Preparation; and Music and Self Esteem. At the SLCVAMC she assists Veterans with a variety of diagnoses reach rehabilitative goals through the use of recreation....and she loves her job.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Erik Brunvand - Associate Professor, Computer Science, University of Utah



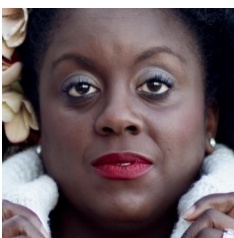
Erik is an Associate Professor of Computer Science at the University of Utah, where his research and teaching interests include the design of application-specific computers, graphics processors, asynchronous systems, and circuits. He has spent time as a visiting scholar in the Digital Arts and Experimental Media (DXARTS) program at the University of Washington, and developed collaborative arts/tech classes at the University of Utah. As an artist and educator, he is fascinated by the connections between arts and technology. One aspect that he finds fascinating about this connection is that benefits seem to flow in both directions. This interest in arts/tech collaborations has led him to explore and show a variety of kinetic mixed media artworks, many involving electronic control. Erik is also a printmaker, and co-founder of Salt-grass Printmakers, a non-profit printmaking studio and gallery in Salt Lake City since 2003.

Gay Cookson - Director, Development/Partnerships for the Utah Department of Heritage & Arts



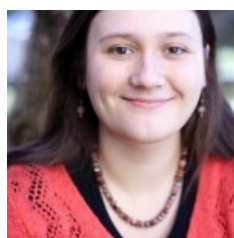
Gay is the Director of Development/Partnerships for the Utah Department of Heritage & Arts. In this role she works with State History, Indian Affairs, Multicultural Affairs, Volunteerism, Libraries, and Arts & Museums to identify funding sources and partners to advance the priorities of Heritage and Arts in Utah. She has 30 years experience advancing the mission of arts and cultural organizations, previously serving as Director of Arts & Museums for the State of Utah, and Senior Development Director for the Arts for the University of Utah.

Dee-Dee Darby-Duffin - Artist - Actor/Singer



Writer, producer, and performer in several sold out Jazz concerts including *I SING WHAT I WANT* a tribute to Jazz Divas; *I'm Feeling Good* a tribute to Etta and Nina; and *To Billie and Ella with Love*. Dee-Dee is also an actor and was last seen sharing the stage with her equally talented daughter in the U of U production of *Eclipsed*. Past stage credits include Utah Rep Theater- *[title of show]* and *Doubt*; Plan B-Mama, *Nothing Personal*, *The Third Crossing*; Grand Theater-Messiah, *Crowns*, *1940's Radio Hour*, *You Can't Take It With You*, Pygmalion Theater Company - *Women of Lockerbie*, *Lady Day at Emerson Bar and Grill*, *Well*; Good Company- *Holiday Time with The Odette's*, *Fences*, *Vagina Monologues*, People Production- *For Colored Girls who Have Committed Suicide When The Rainbow Is Enuf*, *The Exonerated*; Salt Lake Acting Company *The Overwhelming*, *Saturdays Voyeur*, CenterPoint Theater - *Hairspray*, *Civil War*, *Annie*, *Big River*; and *Tsephange* with Sundance Lab Workshop. Directing credits include *A Sea Inside of Me*, *The Life of Jason Smith* and lots of theater coaching to elementary school children.

Adrienne Decker - Folk Arts Specialist, Utah Division of Arts & Museums



Adrienne Decker has an MA in folklore from the University of Oregon. Before relocating to Utah, she held the position of Assistant Folklorist for the Oregon Folklife Network, supporting folk and traditional arts through grant writing, fieldwork, exhibition development, and community outreach. Currently, she coordinates funding and programming opportunities for Utah's traditional artists through the Utah Division of Arts & Museums Folk Arts Program. Adrienne is curator and co-director of the Chase Home Museum of Utah Folk Arts and produces the Mondays in the Park summer concert series. She also serves as a program coordinator for the Living Traditions Festival, held annually in Salt Lake City.

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Jackie Eaton - Research Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, University of Utah



Jacqueline Eaton, PhD is a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Utah College of Nursing. Her research focuses on the use of ethnodrama as an arts-based intervention to improve perceptions of late life potential and quality of life for older adults. She teaches for the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program creating courses in Aging and the Arts and Research Methods.

Martine Kei Green-Rogers - Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre, University of Utah



Martine holds a PhD from the Department of Theatre and Drama at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to studying at UW-Madison, she received her BA in theatre from Virginia Wesleyan College and her MA in theatre history and criticism from The Catholic University of America. Her dramaturgical productions include: Classical Theatre Company's productions of *Miss Julie*, *The Tempest*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Triumph of Love*, *Antigone*, *Candida*, *Ghosts*, *Tartuffe*, and *Shylock*, *The Jew of Venice*; productions of *Home* and *Porgy and Bess* at the Court Theatre; *The Clean House* at CATCO; *To Kill A Mockingbird*; The African Company Presents *Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Fences* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival; *10 Perfect* and *The Curious Walk of the Salamander* as part of the Madison Repertory Theatre's New Play Festival, and *A Thousand Words* as part of the WI Wrights New Play Festival. She has also directed staged readings for the Alley Theatre's HYPE program, and for the Classical Theatre Company. She has previously taught at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, TX and Kenyon College in Gambier, OH. Her research interests include Violence in African American Theatre, African Diaspora Theatre, and Gender and Race in American Theatre. She is a proud member of the American Theatre in Higher Education and the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.

Noemi Hernandez - District Arts Coordinator, Granite School District



Noemi has been a presenter at the Utah Art Educators Conference, a regular guest in "El Grito de la Prosperidad" Educational Radio show, and an award-winning educator and communicator in English and Spanish. Aside from the recognition she earned as an educator and community advocate, as an educator, she built a demand for her classes. In addition to her visual arts expertise she had first hand experiences with dance that began when she became a student of the Dance Department of Mexico City's INBA (National School of Dance). Her experiences as a parent of "Art Lovers" helps her empathize with the educational art needs of students and families as well as understanding the challenge of keeping art programs in our schools. Today, as a District Arts Coordinator for Granite School District, she works to expand K-12 arts education. Noemi has experience in working with one of the most diverse populations in the state. She is able to inspire teachers and students no matter their level of talent or background. She worked to develop a reputation of an educator with the highest standards of classroom management, educational quality, and integrity in the community. Her outstanding performance in education helped her earn the 2015 Granite Education Foundation Excel Award. For her work with students of diverse racial, social, economic, and religious backgrounds she was given the 2000 SUU Commitment to Excellence Advisor of the Year Award, and she also received the 1999 SUU Multi-Cultural Center Advisor of the Year Award. Noemi believes every child regardless of income deserves an art education of the highest quality.

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Sharen Hauri - Urban Design Director, City of South Salt Lake



Originally from St Louis, Missouri, Sharen came to Utah for the snowboarding. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Utah in architecture and attended Utah State for a master's in landscape architecture. The City of South Salt Lake has welcomed Sharen as Urban Design Director after previously consulting closely with the city. She is involved with capital improvement and strategic planning for the Granite Campus, the Street Car Project, and the Columbus Community Center, among many other projects. She says the best part of her job is: "The sense of respect found throughout the community atmosphere and being able to work on so many different projects." She sees South Salt Lake as a city that is "making the leap from a more rural mentality to that of a big city." "I'm excited about the increase in cultural diversity, transit, and walk ability, and I am proud to be part of the change."

Alyssa Hickman Grove - Literary Arts Manager, Utah Division of Arts & Museums



Alyssa Hickman Grove began working for the Utah Division of Arts & Museums in the arts education program in 2007. In 2012, she became the communications manager and web-master; currently, she manages the literary arts program and provides database support. Alyssa studied at American Conservatory Theatre, the University of Edinburgh, San Francisco State University, Utah State University and the University of Utah, where she received her B.A. in theatre. She spent 11 years in the publishing world, writing and editing for local, regional and national publications. Alyssa has acted and directed on theatre stages in Utah and California. A lifetime dancer, she has studied ballet, modern, jazz, ballroom and flamenco.

Jóhann Jacobs - Chair, Utah Arts Council Board; Director of Development, Utah Museum of Fine Arts



Jóhann's career in the arts spans more than 30 years. Currently he is the director of development at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts at the University of Utah. Elected to the position of executive director for Ballet West in 1997, Jacobs directed the overall management of the company, including its fundraising efforts, its strategic planning, its marketing, finance and human resources activity, and built the organization's successes as an acknowledged force in the field of classical ballet. Prior to Ballet West, Jacobs helped establish the Oregon Ballet Theatre (OBT) in as chief administrative officer and later managing director. Before Oregon, Jacobs spent six years as financial controller for Robert Redford's Sundance Institute in Salt Lake City.

Amy Jorgensen - Photographer, Co-Director, Granary Art Center



Born in Milan, Italy, Amy received a BFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and Tufts University, and an MFA from the University of California San Diego. With recent solo exhibitions at Elizabeth Houston Gallery in NYC, LA > < Art Digital Billboard in Los Angeles, and Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, selected exhibitions include GuatePhoto Festival, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Oceanside Museum of Art, and Museum of Art at BYU. She is a recipient of a GSA grant and an Individual Artist Grant from the Utah Arts Council. Jorgensen is currently the co-director and chief curator at Granary Art Center and is a member of the Utah Arts Council board of directors. She has curated over 25 exhibitions and served as a juror for the UMOCA Doctorow Prize and Springville Museum of Art Spring Salon. Jorgensen lives and works remotely in the high plains desert of Utah and lectures regularly about issues related to curatorial practice, arts advocacy, and her work as a practicing artist.

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Ruby Lopez Harper - Director of Local Arts Services, Americans for the Arts



Ruby is the director of local arts services for Americans for the Arts. She is the co-chair for the National Coalition on Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response, serves as co-chair on the Support for Individual Artist Steering Committee for Grantmakers in the Arts and serves on the WETA Community Advisory Council. She is also on the board of the Gard Foundation. Prior to joining AFTA, Ruby was the director of grants and services at the Greater Columbus Arts Council in Columbus, OH. At the Greater Columbus Arts Council, Ruby focused on grantmaking, community development, economic development and tourism, and public art. She has a varied background that includes corporate affairs, marketing, and business administration. She served on the Emerging Leaders Council for Americans for the Arts and was the primary contact for the Arts and Economic Impact Study for Central Ohio. She also worked with PhilanthropyOhio on their Member Services Committee.

Seyan Lucero - Associate Director, Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF)



Seyan Lucero is WESTAF's associate director. She oversees the organization's operations and technology initiative and manages the budget and schedules of technology projects. As a key member of the senior management team and technology development team, she is responsible for managing processes related to technology design and builds, testing WESTAF systems for usability, and general software development support. Lucero also administers WESTAF's presenting and touring grant program, TourWest. She previously worked as the manager of administrative services for the executive search consulting firm EFL Associates and has broad experience in information technology and administration. Lucero comes from a family of artists and writers. Her family immigrated to the United States from Korea in 1975 and she received her United States citizenship in 1981. Lucero earned a bachelor's degree in humanities from the University of Colorado Boulder.

Nancy Madsen - Caregiver Support Program Manager, Utah Division of Aging & Adult Services



Nancy Madsen, MS, SSW monitors the National Family Caregiver Support Program in the 12 Area Agencies on Aging in Utah, provides training and education opportunities as program manager of the Caregiver Support Program. As a previous family caregiver for her elderly mother and late husband, she understands the role of a caregiver well. Previously she worked as a Certified Long-Term-Care Ombudsman overseeing 71 long-term-care facilities and volunteered with AmeriCorps VISTA for Mountainland Association of Governments revitalizing and expanding caregiver education to seven locations in Utah County and teaching community caregiver education classes.

Clifford Murphy - Director of Folk and Traditional Arts, National Endowment for the Arts



Clifford R. Murphy is the director of folk & traditional arts at the National Endowment for the Arts. He is the past director of Maryland Traditions, the folklife program of the Maryland State Arts Council. A former working rock musician, Cliff has published two books and numerous articles on American music and Public Folklore. He holds an MA and PhD in ethnomusicology from Brown University, and lives in Baltimore with his wife, Monica, and four rowdy children.

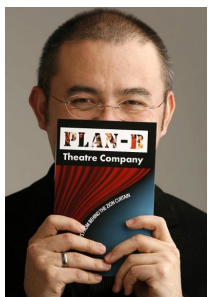
CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Natalie Petersen - Assistant Director, Utah Division of Arts & Museums



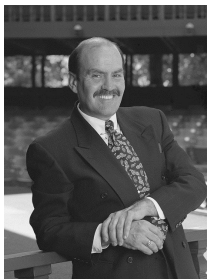
Natalie is a passionate advocate for strengthening communities through public engagement with the arts and loves connecting people with opportunities. She currently serves as assistant director for the Utah Division of Arts & Museums. Twelve years of experience at the Springville Museum of Art allowed her to build strong partnerships among arts and museums communities. Previous to her nonprofit arts administration, Natalie trained and worked as a therapist, helping people overcome challenges, collaborate effectively, and achieve personal and organizational growth. Natalie has served as a board member, panelist, and presenter for state, regional, and national organizations. She received an MSW from Brigham Young University and a BA in art history and studio art minor from the University of Arizona.

Jerry Rapier - Artistic Director, Plan-B Theatre Company



Jerry has served as the artistic director of Plan-B Theatre Company since 2000, where he works daily on new plays by local playwrights. He is the only person of color leading a professional theatre company in Utah. Nationally he has served on seven theatre panels for the National Endowment for the Arts and as a member of the Board of Governors of the Human Rights Campaign. Locally he has been named one of the Catalyst 100 by *Catalyst Magazine*, an Alternative Pioneer by *City Weekly*, one of Utah's Top 25 Cultural Power Brokers by *The Salt Lake Tribune* and one of Community Foundation of Utah's inaugural Enlightened Fifty. A recipient of Salt Lake City's Mayor's Artist Award in the Performing Arts, Jerry is now mostly known as four-year-old Oscar's Papa, which is just fine with him.

R. Scott Phillips - Utah Shakespeare Festival, Executive Director Emeritus



For over 42 years, R. Scott Phillips has worked in public relations, marketing, and theatre administration. He recently stepped down as executive director of the Utah Shakespeare Festival after guiding that organization as its CEO for a decade. He was responsible for the leadership, long range planning and artistic and financial stability of the Festival as it continued to evolve into a national theatre company. In addition to his Festival duties, he has served as president of both the Shakespeare Theatre Association and the Rocky Mountain Theatre Association. He has served on the Utah Arts Council Board, the Las Vegas New West Stage Company Board of Advisors, the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Cedar City Beautification Committee, the Cedar City Convention and Tourism Board, the Cedar City Historic Downtown Revitalization Task Force, and is a charter member of the Southwest Arts Network. In addition to his arts administration accomplishments, Mr. Phillips has directed over sixty university and professional productions.

Alan Reighard - Partner/Brand Planning, Love Communication



Alan is a partner at Love Communications and leads its brand planning and research efforts. In that role, he works with account teams and clients in the initial development of their marketing and branding strategies. Prior to joining Love in 2004, Alan was the managing director of agency DSW Partners which focused almost exclusively on technology accounts. In the 1990s DSW Partners was the premier technology agency in the country, famously creating and launching the Intel Inside co-op program, as well as leading the branding and advertising of other such notable brands as Netscape, Novell, WordPerfect, Iomega's Zip Drive, Ask Jeeves and many more. DSW was sold to the HAVAS agency network in France and Alan became a member of its global team, overseeing 212 agencies worldwide. A long-time Park City resident, Alan lives with his wife Suzy and son Wolfgang and has three daughters.

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Jamie Rocha Allan - Artist - Director/Actor/Teacher



Jamie is a British theatre director and acting/directing teacher who is now living and working in the US. He received his MFA in theatre directing from Birkbeck College London. Since graduating, he has directed in a number of theatres and educational institutions in both the UK and the US, including the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Globe Theatre London.

Melissa Rollins - Recreation Therapist, Veterans Administration Hospital Salt Lake



Melissa Rollins graduated from the University of Utah receiving her Bachelors degree in Parks Recreation and Tourism with an emphasis in Recreation Therapy. She has worked with Veterans with a non-profit group, at the State Veterans Nursing Home, and is currently a recreation therapist at the Salt Lake VA Medical Center. In total, she has worked with Veterans for 14 years. Melissa was involved with the National Veterans Wheelchair games that were hosted in Salt Lake City by the Salt Lake VA Medical Center. Melissa presented at the Utah Recreation Therapy Association this past year.

Madalena Salazar - Program Manager, IMTour™ and Grants Administrator TourWest, WESTAF



Madalena is the program manager for IMTour™ and grants manager for TourWest. She is responsible for administering grants that support performing artists and presenters. Salazar has spent her career building inclusion and equity in the arts and arts education both as an independent consultant and at institutions like the Denver Art Museum, where she was the first Latino cultural programs coordinator, the Brooklyn Museum, and the University of New Mexico. She received a bachelor's degree in anthropology and a master's degree in art history from the University of New Mexico. Salazar is fascinated by the potential of human creativity and tries to infuse it in her daily life by cooking, gardening, DIY projects, and enjoying music, nature, and cultural experiences with her family.

Ashlee Stephenson - Senior Associate Director, Western State Arts Federation (WESTAF)



Ashlee serves as WESTAF's senior associate director. She works with WESTAF Executive Director to oversee and proactively direct WESTAF's long term strategic and current operations activities. Prior to assuming her current position, Stephenson managed WESTAF's Grants Online (GO™) and GO.5™ systems and served as an advisor for several WESTAF earned income projects. She has overseen the execution of periodic major marketing pushes related to technology projects and serves as the lead for the ZAPP® project's strategic technology enhancements. Stephenson previously served as WESTAF's senior program manager and prior to that, as a client manager for WESTAF's CaFE™ system, as well as lead business development advisor for ZAPP® technology enhancements. Stephenson received dual degrees in psychology and biology with minors in equine science and anthropology from Rocky Mountain College in Montana.

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Erik Stern - Professor of Dance, Weber State University



Erik holds a BA in Biology from UC Santa Cruz and an MFA in Dance from Cal Arts, and has worked as a choreographer, dancer, educator, actor and musician. In 2006, Erik created "Demolition Derby—when a mind loses its license to drive," which was in New York City and led to collaborations with medical, research and arts groups. Touring with Tandy Beal and Company for ten years, Erik recently reprised his role as William Blake in Repertory Dance Theatre's production of "Outside Blake's Window." The Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble, which he co-directs with Karl Schaffer, has toured throughout North America and received five grants from the NEA. In 2006 Stern staged, directed and performed in "Navigating Lake Bonneville." He recently was at Appelboom, a resident artists' program in rural France. He is a frequent dabbler in tap dance.

Lisa Thompson - Exhibit Developer/ Interpretive Planner, Natural History Museum of Utah



Lisa has more than 20 years of professional experience in developing and implementing educational programs in informal learning environments. As the Natural History Museum of Utah's exhibit developer, she researches exhibit topics, collaborates with scientists, develops content plans, oversees the production of interactives and videos, write scripts, and conducts audience research for exhibits large and small. She currently chairs NHMU's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She is particularly interested in fostering meaningful, mutually-beneficial collaborations between the Museum and a variety of community partners.

Leslie Timmons - Associate Professor, Utah State University



Leslie is a flutist and music educator on the faculty of the Music Department, Caine College of the Arts at USU. As an Orff Schulwerk specialist she directs a summer teacher education workshop and also works with Cache Children's Choir, the Utah Division of Arts & Museums, and as a clinician for workshops across the country. She is a flutist with the American Festival Chorus and Orchestra, the woodwind quintet Logan Canyon Winds, and flute/clarinet duo AirFare. Both ensembles do extensive outreach and have commissioned new repertoire that engages young audiences directly in making music through prepared or spontaneous performance. Her research includes expanding the scope of arts education through extended day opportunities. Leslie has served on the national boards of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, the American Recorder Society, and the Utah Music Educators Association.

Nathan Webster - Executive Director, NOW-ID



Nathan Webster has the capacity to make things happen, to manage and leverage diverse groups of people and to excel at bringing ideas to an inspiring reality, and on timelines that vary from the world of art and performance to the long haul of making buildings, companies and community. A native of Vancouver, Canada, he studied architecture at McGill University in Montreal and in Grenoble, France before embarking on a professional career that has led to architectural practice based in British Columbia, Ontario, California and now Utah. Nathan has a broad experience from some 20+ years in the field of architecture, coordinating diverse teams in multiple states and provinces to bring complex projects to reality on time and on budget. He is an excellent communicator experienced in design, project management and fundraising. He is one of the organizers of Salt Lake City's Pecha Kucha Night and has collaborated on sets and conceptualization on several performances and installations with life partner Charlotte Boye-Christensen.